INFORMATION LETTER

Not for Publication — NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION — For Members Only

No. 1431 | Washington, D. C. | April 4, 1953

Department of Health, Education, and Welfare

On April 11 the Federal Security Agency will become the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, and the Federal Security Administrator will become the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare.

The Food and Drug Administration, headed by the Commissioner of Food and Drugs, will be part of the new department, together with all other functions of the FSA.

The new department was created by Reorganization Plan No. 1 of 1953, submitted to Congress March 12. Congress adopted a joint resolution enabling the President to make the reorganization effective sooner than the 60 days provided for by law.

Trade Agreements Act

The House Committee on Ways and Means has scheduled hearings beginning April 22 on a bill, H. R. 4294, to amend and extend the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act.

Introduced by Representative Simpson (Pa.), the bill would extend for one year, to June 12, 1954, the authority of the President to negotiate reciprocal trade agreements in which U. S. tariffs may be reduced to one-half of the rates in effect in 1945.

However, the bill would prohibit the establishment of a tariff below the "peril point" level set by the Tariff Commission prior to such negotiations, and would give the Tariff Commission final authority in "escape clause" actions, which result from claims of domestic industries that they are being injured by low tariffs.

These provisions would take from the President the ability to place international politics above the interests of domestic producers, or to overrule the Commission on some other basis.

The administration has not yet sent its legislative proposal on the trade agreements program to Congress, but the President stated this week that the present law should be extended one year.

VA Lists 1953 Requirements, Seeks Prospective Bidders

The Veterans Administration will purchase canned fruits and vegetables this year through its own purchasing organization.

In announcing its 1953-pack requirements of canned fruits and vegetables, the VA on March 27 issued a general invitation to all canners to notify the agency of their desire to participate in the 1953 purchasing program.

Because the VA's 1951 and 1952 requirements were purchased by the QMC, the VA's lists of prospective bidders became inactive. Canners interested in bidding on 1953-pack requirements may find it desirable, therefore, to advise the VA of their interest.

In general, the VA stated, the purchasing program will operate as follows:

"1. Bid invitations will be issued by the General Supplies Section, Procurement Division, Supply Service, Veterans Administration, Washington 25, D. C.

"2. Bids will be invited both f.o.b. bidder's shipping point and f.o.b. destination.

"3. Quantities on which awards are made will not be less than carload or truckload lots in most instances.

"4. Purchases may be made for three VA supply depots, the carload shipping addresses for which are Royce, N. J., Broadview, Ill., and Manuel, Calif.

"5. Deliveries may in some instances be scheduled for as long as 6 months following the opening of the bid which will require that the contractor continue to warehouse the merchandise during this period.

"6. Vegetables and sirup-packed fruits will usually be requested in No. 10 can size; however, bids on can sizes other than No. 10 will be considered, if so stated in the invitation, with award being made on a per ounce basis.

"7. Inspection will be made prior to shipment by the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

"8. Contracts in excess of $10,000 will be subject to the Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act."

(Please turn to page 154)

Spring Meeting of Board, Administrative Council

The Spring meeting of the N.C.A. Board of Directors and Administrative Council has been scheduled for Friday, May 22, and Saturday, May 23, it is announced by President Louis Ratzesberger, Jr.

The Council will meet at N.C.A. Headquarters the morning of May 22. The Board sessions will start with a luncheon that day at Hotel Statler and will continue with a second session Saturday. Plans are being made now for guest speakers and agenda, and details will be announced shortly. Invitations to Board and Council members were issued this week.

Pesticide Residues in Foods

A new bill to prevent excessive pesticide residues in foods has been introduced by Representative Miller (Nebr.).

The bill, H. R. 4277, which applies only to pesticide residues, differs from the Delaney bills in that it incorporates its sponsor's belief that the problem of chemical additives in foods should be resolved by giving separate legislative treatment to pesticides as opposed to the remaining types of additives, such as chemical preservatives.

The Miller bill would require the establishment of tolerances by the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare for pesticide residues in foods and would prohibit the interstate shipment of foods containing such residues unless the quantity did not exceed the tolerance or the pesticide was exempted by the Secretary from the requirements of a tolerance.

Mexican Farm Labor Program

The House Committee on Agriculture on March 31 approved and sent to the House H. R. 3480, extending until December 31, 1956, the time during which Mexican nationals may be employed in agriculture.

STATISTICS

1952 Pack of Baby Food

The pack of canned baby food during the calendar year 1952 totaled 134,087,499 dozens, as compared with 119,641,044 dozens packed in 1951, according to a report by the N.C.A. Division of Statistics.

The 1952 annual report is a summary of reports from canners packing baby food. The report may vary slightly from a total of the monthly packs.

1952 Pack of Baby Food

(January 1, 1952, through December 31, 1952)

Strained Baby Food

Product	Tin Pack (202 x 214)	Glass Pack (4½ oz.–5 oz.)	Total Tin & Glass Pack
	(dozens)	(dozens)	(dozens)
Vegetables	7,257,423	17,490,192	24,747,615
Fruits	14,046,341	25,717,956	39,764,297
Meat products	15,523,298	14,465,023	29,988,321
Custards and puddings	4,299,639	6,258,645	10,558,284
U. S. Total	41,126,701	63,931,816	105,058,517

Chopped or Junior Foods

Product	Tin Pack (202 x 214) (211 x 210)	Glass Pack (4½ oz.–5 oz.) (8 oz.)	Total Tin & Glass Pack
	(dozens)	(dozens)	(dozens)
Vegetables	1,695,395	2,944,803	4,640,198
Fruits	3,010,517	6,604,357	9,614,874
Meat products	6,061,041	7,120,324	13,181,365
Custards and puddings	325,359	1,267,186	1,592,545
U. S. Total	11,092,312	17,936,670	29,028,982
Total strained and chopped	52,219,013	81,868,486	134,087,499

Comparison of Pack by Container

	Strained	Chopped	Total
	(dozens)	(dozens)	(dozens)
1951 Tin	37,104,129	10,121,710	47,225,839
1952 Tin	41,126,701	11,092,312	52,219,013
1951 Glass	55,856,644	16,558,561	72,415,205
1952 Glass	63,931,816	17,936,670	81,868,486

Canned Meat Report

The quantity of meat canned and meat products processed under federal inspection during the four-week period February 1-28 has been reported by the Bureau of Animal Industry, USDA. However, this report represents only the supply of meat products canned during that period and remaining for civilian consumption. Total production, including quantities for defense, was 228,819 thousand pounds.

Canned Meat and Meat Products Processed under Federal Inspection
Feb. 1-28, 1953

	3 Lbs. & over	Under 3 Lbs.	Total
	(in thousands of pounds)		
Luncheon meat	21,659	13,048	34,706
Canned hams	24,779	642	25,421
Corned beef hash	250	7,505	7,764
Chili con carne	1,853	11,612	13,465
Vienna sausage	183	5,416	5,598
Frankfurters and weiners in brine	3	1,303	1,306
Deviled ham	.....	677	677
Other potted and deviled meat products	.....	4,358	4,358
Tamales	172	2,000	2,172
Sliced, dried beef	31	457	488
Liver products	78	171	250
Meat stew	58	7,176	7,234
Spaghetti meat products	625	6,046	6,672
Tongue (not pickled)	113	488	601
Vinegar pickled products	1,143	1,838	2,981
Bulk sausage	.....	1,107	1,107
Hamburger	96	2,733	2,829
Soups	2,140	75,658	77,798
Sausage in oil	263	230	493
Tripe	1	820	821
Brains	.....	387	387
Bacon	69	299	368
All other products 20% or more meat	371	6,828	7,199
All other products less than 20% meat (except soup)	652	17,621	18,272
Total all products	54,548	168,420	222,967

Columns do not add to totals shown in all cases since rounded figures are used. Amounts packed for defense agencies are not included in these items. Total production, including quantities for defense agencies, was 228,819 thousand pounds.

Agricultural Prices

After six consecutive months of declining prices, the index of prices received by farmers rose 1 point (one-third of 1 percent) during the month ended March 15, according to a report on *Agricultural Prices* issued March 31 by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

A check of the March 15 index of prices received by farmers during the last nine years revealed that it rose above February 15 four years, declined in four years, and showed no change one year.

Higher prices for hogs, cotton, eggs, wheat, and corn more than offset lower prices for beef cattle, calves, wholesale milk, and potatoes. The March 15 index of 264 is 8 percent (24 points) below a year ago, but 6 percent higher than June, 1950, just before the outbreak in Korea.

The parity ratio remained unchanged at 94 percent.

MEETINGS

C. A. Greenleaf Addresses Meat Institute Conference

By invitation of the American Meat Institute, C. A. Greenleaf, Assistant Director of the N.C.A. Washington Research Laboratory, presented an address at the Fifth Research Conference of the Institute, held in Chicago on March 26-27. Approximately 400 were in attendance.

The subject of Mr. Greenleaf's paper was "New Developments in Canning." He reviewed recent progress in application of high temperature-short time processing, and discussed the status of proposed heatless methods of sterilization.

VA Lists 1953 Requirements

(Concluded from page 153)

Following are the VA's estimated total requirements from the 1953 pack:

Item	(cans)
Apples, sliced, heavy pack	90,000 No. 10
Apple sauce	90,000 No. 10
Apricots, halves, unpeeled, water pack	72,000 No. 2
Apricots, halves, unpeeled, heavy sirup	72,000 No. 10
Apricots, halves, p. or unp., solid pack	12,000 No. 10
Blue berries, water pack	30,000 No. 10
Cherries, Lt. Swt., unp., water pack	72,000 No. 2
Cherries, Lt. Swt., unp., heavy sirup	66,000 No. 10
Cherries, RSP, water pack	76,000 No. 10
Figs, Kadota, water pack	24,000 No. 2
Figs, Kadota, heavy sirup	42,000 No. 10
Fruit cocktail, heavy sirup	100,000 No. 10
Fruits for salad, water pack	96,000 No. 2
Peaches, y.c., halved, water pack	136,000 No. 2
Peaches, y.c., halved, heavy sirup	160,000 No. 10
Peaches, y.c., halved or qtr., solid pack	36,000 No. 10
Pears, halved, water pack	120,000 No. 10
Pears, halved, heavy sirup	160,000 No. 2
Pineapple slices, medium, water pack	60,000 No. 2
Pineapple slices, med., ex. hvy sirup	100,000 No. 10
Pineapple, crushed, heavy pack, ex. hvy sirup	60,000 No. 10
Pineapple tidbits, ex. hvy sirup	42,000 No. 10
Plums, purple, water pack	48,000 No. 2
Plums, purple, heavy sirup	66,000 No. 10
Asparagus, cut spears, Fancy	130,000 No. 10
Beans, Lima, Extra Standard	104,000 No. 10
Beans, snap, round, cut	260,000 No. 10
Carrots, sliced or diced, Standard	36,000 No. 10
Catsup, tomato, Fancy	66,000 No. 10
Corn, c.s., golden, Ex. Std.	100,000 No. 10
Corn, w.g., golden, Ex. Std.	100,000 No. 10
Peas, Extra Standard	300,000 No. 10
Potatoes, sweet, whole & pieces, Fancy	600,000 No. 2½
Tomatoes, Extra Standard	360,000 No. 10

RESEARCH

Control of Pea Aphid, Corn Borer and Corn Ear Worm

A summary of control operations on pea aphid, corn borer, and corn ear worm in 1952 was reported recently by Dr. J. W. Apple of the University of Wisconsin at the Wisconsin Canners Fieldmen's Conference.

Dr. Apple reviewed scientific data and reported results on pea aphid control with parathion, rotenone, DDT, malathon, and Systox; corn borer control obtained with DDT, based on applications according to calendar date and borer degree date; and experiments in controlling corn ear worm.

In view of the conciseness of the paper and the scientific bases for the control techniques under study, canners may wish to obtain copies of Dr. Apple's paper. They may be obtained upon request to Dr. J. W. Apple, Department of Entomology, University of Wisconsin, at Madison.

SUPPLIES

Tin Conserved by Use of New Can Manufacturing Techniques

Approximately 257,000 tons of tin valued at $495,000,000 have been saved since 1941 through the coordination of industry and government research in tin plate conservation programs in the production of cans, according to Dr. Berton S. Clark, scientific director of American Can Company.

Dr. Clark told a meeting of the New York section of the Institute of Food Technologists, of which he is president-elect, that the average tin coating per base box has been reduced from 1.31 pounds to an estimated 0.598 pounds last year. "In 1941," he said, "46,900 tons of tin were used in the production of tin mill products in the United States for containers, but by 1952 this figure had come down to 27,772 tons, even though about 18 billion more cans were produced by the entire industry.

"This saving to manufacturers, processors and consumers was made possible," Dr. Clark said, "through the joint efforts of the steel industry and can manufacturers. Under the tin conservation program beginning in 1941, the steel companies acted quickly in converting from hot-dipped tin plate to electrolytic plate and black plate. At the same time the can manufacturers of this country made these new materials acceptable by developing fabricating processes for converting this type of plate into containers which would give substantially the same service life provided by cans made from hot-dipped tin plate."

Dr. Clark stated that cans for about 120 canned food items alone have been involved in the tin conservation program as well as a number of cans used for nonfood items.

Glass Container Shipments

Shipments of wide-mouth glass containers for food during 1952 were almost 8 percent greater than the total shipped during 1951, according to a report by the Bureau of the Census, U. S. Department of Commerce.

Shipments of narrow-neck containers for food likewise increased in 1952, being 3 percent greater than 1951 shipments.

Despite the greater shipments of glass containers to food processors, over-all shipments of glass containers in 1952 were down slightly. The greatest declines were in shipments of containers for beer.

	1951	1952	Percent change from 1951
	(gross)		
Wide-mouth food (including fruit jars and jelly glasses)	26,841,327	28,913,100	+7.7
Total wide-mouth	38,609,853	41,092,157	+6.4
Narrow-neck food	11,528,180	11,913,506	+3.3
Narrow-neck total	73,065,975	70,373,934	−3.7
Total all types	114,738,185	114,143,793	−0.5

1952 Metal Can Shipments

Shipments of metal cans for fruits and vegetables, including juice, were about 1 percent less during 1952 than in 1951, according to a report by the Bureau of the Census, U. S. Department of Commerce.

Shipments of cans for fish and sea food, on the other hand, increased 2 percent in 1952.

Shipments of all food cans in 1952 declined slightly below 1951, while shipments of cans for nonfood products were up 3 percent. This increase was accounted for by larger shipments of cans for pet foods and beer, up 22.7 and 14.0 percent, respectively.

The shipments are measured in terms of short tons of steel consumed in the manufacture of cans.

	1951	1952	Percent change from 1951
	(short tons of steel)		
Fruit and vegetable (including juice)	1,354,463	1,340,177	−1.1
Fish and sea food	105,704	107,856	+2.0
Meat, including poultry	(a)	(a)	.....
Evaporated milk	251,536	250,659	−0.4
Condensed milk	5,898	5,063	−14.2
Other dairy products	35,747	32,681	−8.6
Lard and shortening	83,491	93,312	+11.8
Coffee	(a)	(a)	.....
All other food cans	721,752	725,126	+0.5
Total food cans	2,558,591	2,554,874	−0.2
Total nonfood cans	1,245,960	1,286,763	+3.3
Total metal cans	3,804,551	3,841,637	+1.0

(a) Data combined with "all other food cans" to avoid disclosing figures for individual companies.

International Tin Study Group

Delegates to a meeting of the International Tin Study Group in London March 25-29 voted to appoint a working party to consider again the establishment of an international agreement controlling the marketing of tin.

The working party will meet June 15 to consider reopening negotiations for an international commodity agreement. In 1950, the draft of such an agreement was prepared by the International Tin Study Group and discussed at a meeting in Geneva. However, largely because of United States' opposition, the talks were never resumed (see INFORMATION LETTER of Oct. 28, 1950, page 305).

The working party will decide whether to request the United Nations to convene another conference for consideration of the proposal.

PERSONNEL

Southern California Processors

The Southern California Food Processors Association has elected the following officers:

President—Charles Kern, Kern Food Products, Inc., Los Angeles; vice president—Albert Vignolo, Jr., West Coast Packing Corp., Long Beach; treasurer—W. E. Beach, McKeon Canning Co., Inc., Burbank (reelected); secretary—Elmer H. Howlett, Los Angeles (reelected).

Tennessee-Kentucky Canners

The Tennessee-Kentucky Canners Association elected the following officers recently at the association's annual meeting:

President—John Craddock, Real Foods, Inc., Tiptonville, Tenn.; vice president—R. K. Roney, Jr., Old Black Joe Company, Hohenwald, Tenn.; secretary-treasurer—H. L. W. Hill, Tennessee Foods, Inc., Portland, Tenn. (reelected).

National Meat Canners Assn.

The National Meat Canners Association reelected its officers recently at the association's annual meeting. They are:

President—Ralph Keller, George A. Hormel & Co., Chicago; vice president—J. Emmett Clair, Republic Food Products Co., Chicago; treasurer—W. J. Foell, Foell Packing Company, Chicago; secretary—J. H. Moninger, Chicago.

U. S. Wholesale Grocers Assn.

The U. S. Wholesale Grocers Association elected the following officers recently at the association's annual convention:

President—Harry D. Shuford, Moore Grocery Co., Tyler, Tex.; executive vice president—Harold O. Smith, Washington, D. C. (reelected); secretary—R. H. Rowe, Washington, D. C. (reelected); treasurer—Van Salley, Salley Grocer Co., Bernice, La.

HOME ECONOMICS

N.C.A. Home Economist on TV

On March 25, Martha Gazella, N.C.A. menu and recipe service home economist, was a guest on the "Margaret's Kitchen" TV show in Washington, D. C. The popular WNBW-TV production is a daily half-hour homemaker television show.

The entire program featured canned foods. Beginning the program, Margaret (Miss Matthews) demonstrated a salad using canned grapefruit sections, grapefruit juice, and dark sweet cherries. She then made main dish sandwiches of tuna and canned asparagus. Following her demonstrations, Miss Gazella and Miss Matthews chatted informally about the services of the N.C.A. and about canned foods.

Miss Gazella showed how to make a spring dessert using canned fruits, and gave several suggestions for other quick desserts made with canned fruits and fruit juices.

One of the N.C.A. home economics recipe booklets was offered to the audience upon request.

LABOR

Injury Rates in Manufacturing During Fourth Quarter, 1952

The all-manufacturing injury-frequency rate for 1952 was lower than in any previous year on record, according to preliminary reports received by the U. S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Preliminary reports indicate that the 1952 all-manufacturing rate was about 13.5 disabling injuries per million employee-hours worked. This is 13 percent below the final rate of 15.5 for 1951 and 7 percent below the previous low of 14.5 recorded in 1949.

The accident frequency rate for the canning and preserving industry was 10 percent less in the fourth quarter of 1952 than in the corresponding quarter in 1951. The injury frequency rate for 1952 was down 12.5 percent below the average for 1951.

The injury frequency rate is the average number of disabling work-injuries for each million employee hours worked. It includes the experience of all classes of employees—production and related workers, force-account construction workers, administrative, sales, service, technical, professional, office and all other personnel—in the computation of injury-frequency rates.

The injury frequency rate for the canning and preserving industry is shown in the following table with comparisons:

Injury-Frequency Rates for Selected Food Manufacturing Industries

Industry	Fourth quarter 1952	Fourth quarter 1951	Annual Average 1952	Annual Average 1951
All Manufacturing	12.5	14.2	13.5	15.5
Food Manufacturing Industries:				
Meat products	18.9	21.1	20.1	21.8
Dairy products	18.1	19.3	17.8	19.1
Canning and Preserving	18.4	20.6	22.4	25.6
Grain-mill products	24.0	21.5	20.9	19.2
Bakery products	14.9	14.6	14.3	15.7
Cane sugar	17.8	15.5	19.9	19.3
Beet sugar	(a)	(a)	45.7	40.2
Confectionery and related products	8.1	16.4	9.5	14.3
Bottled soft drinks	24.5	26.8	28.8	32.9
Malt and malt liquors	18.4	20.0	22.0	24.5
Wines	(a)	(a)	24.7	26.1
Distilled liquors	5.9	6.8	7.1	8.2
Misc. food products	16.8	17.4	15.8	17.8

(a) Insufficient data to warrant presentation of average.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Association Activities — Page

Spring meeting of Board, Administrative Council ... 153

Congress

Pesticide residues in foods ... 153
Trade agreements act ... 153
Mexican farm labor program ... 153

Home Economics

N.C.A. home economist on TV ... 156

Labor

Injury rates in manufacturing during fourth quarter, 1952 ... 156

Meetings

C. A. Greenleaf addresses Meat Institute conference ... 154

Personnel

Southern California Processors ... 155
Tennessee-Kentucky Canners ... 156
National Meat Canners Assn. ... 156
U. S. Wholesale Grocers Assn. ... 156

Procurement — Page

VA lists 1953 requirements, seeks prospective bidders ... 153

Research

Control of pea aphid, corn borer and corn ear worm ... 155

Standards

Department of Health, Education, and Welfare ... 153

Statistics

1952 pack of baby food ... 154
Canned meat report ... 154
Agricultural prices ... 154

Supplies

Tin conserved by use of new can manufacturing techniques ... 155
Glass container shipments ... 155
1952 metal can shipments ... 155
International tin study group ... 155